

Claim For Soviet Missile Doubted

[Washington Bureau of The Sun]

Washington, April 24—Top Administration officials here appear to be skeptical about the claim of Nikita S. Khrushchev, Soviet leader, that Russia "very soon" will have an intercontinental missile with a hydrogen-bomb warhead.

Allen W. Dulles, director of the Central Intelligence Agency, said today Khrushchev was "probably a little bit on the high side" in his prediction, adding, "I don't think he is given to minimizing things."

He said, "It's a change to have a man in the Soviet Union who bluffs out things now. Maybe some day we'll have a little more intelligence."

Last Appearance Before Group

Dulles made his comments when questioned after his third and final appearance before a special Senate Armed Services subcommittee which is investigating the adequacy of American airpower.

Dulles has briefed the group, headed by Senator Symington (D., Mo.), on Russian developments in the military field.

Donald A. Quarles, Air Force Secretary, commented yesterday that he was still of the opinion that it would be five or ten years before the piloted bomber gives way to the 5,000-mile ballistics missile carrying nuclear warheads. He said he saw no reason to "distinguish" the Soviet position.

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